

INTELLIGENCE: Director of Central Intelligence

Project : Flying Sensors of Unconventional Aircraft

1. A dispatch from Priory, C-153, dated 13 October 1955, reported the sighting of two flying objects or disc-like unconventional aircraft. An interview with the pilot of one of the two discoids of these aircraft, called 10, confirm in several respects the information given in the dispatch.

2. His observations were limited to sighting the lights which initially arose vertically and then appeared the train and passed over head at a high altitude. He failed to observe the body of the object and had no feeling as to whether it was round, disc-like or oval shape. His only reason for classifying an unconventional nature to the object was that it rose vertically and appeared to glide in a manner unlike any aircraft he had previously seen. However, in view of the fact that it was dark, that he thought the aircraft quite high (3000 feet) and that his observations were undoubtedly conditioned by the knowledge and genetics that he had seen a flying saucer, too much confidence cannot be given to his observation. The fact that no noise was heard may also have influenced his opinion on the unconventional characteristic of the object. He also failed to confirm the existence of the train official following the incident. It is my belief that the testimony alone could not confirm the existence of any unconventional aircraft. However, he was not in a position to have as good a look as were the other members of the party. A very careful interpretation of the other members is in order.

3. Two years ago, Mr. Robertson headed a group which investigated U.S. sightings of flying saucers. This group was able to confirm almost all the sightings and reached the conclusion that these phenomena represented no threat to the security of the U.S. Even in the present sightings

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2/20/00

195

SUBJECT: Flying Saucers or Unconventional Aircraft

are confirmed, it would not be unusual that those unconventional aircraft have originally been flying over the U.S. and were the source of U.S. public speculation.

4. The USAF is supporting a Project "Y" at Avro Aircraft Ltd. in Canada for the development of unconventional aircraft-like aircraft. However, this development is still in the early research and development stages with three or more years being required before the production of a first prototype. If the development proves successful, the calculations indicate that such an aircraft might have a very high ceiling (up to 100,000 feet) with speeds up to 1,000 miles per hour, a range of 700 miles and rate of climb of 100,000 feet a minute. A vertical take-off characteristic would, of course, be extremely valuable. Project Y is being directed by John Frost. Mr. Frost is reported to have given his original idea for the flying machine first a group of Germans just after World War II. The Soviets may also have obtained this information from this German group. (It is requested that you ask General Sanford to report on the progress of the Air Force project at the DDC meeting.)

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cc: DD/I

DISSEMINATION

C-1 & 2 - red
1 - DD/I
2 - DD/SI
2 - ADD/SI